

### THE POST PROMOTES ITS FOREIGN EDITOR

Jackson Diehl, a *Washington Post* editor who has reported from Poland, Israel and Argentina, was named assistant managing editor for foreign news recently.

Diehl, the second-ranking position on the foreign desk and editor for that section, has replaced Michael Getler, who has been promoted to deputy managing editor.

A graduate of Yale University, Diehl joined the *Post* in 1978. He was appointed foreign editor last year.

### LAGIER APPOINTED BUREAU CHIEF

James C. Lagier, who joined AP in 1962, became the wire service's bureau chief in Tokyo recently. Lagier studied the Japanese language at the Defense Language Institute at Monterey, Calif. He succeeded

Tom Dygard, AP's bureau chief since 1985, who took an early retirement to continue writing books.

### HEADING TO TOKYO?

The Foreign Correspondents Club of Japan signed a five-year, 72.9 million yen (about \$681,000 U.S. dollars) financing agreement this summer to renovate its club premises.

The club occupies two floors of an office building in central Tokyo, across a main avenue from the Imperial Palace. To furnish its bar, the club is offering endowed chairs to its members. For 50,000 yen (about \$467), the donor's name or name of a person the donor wishes to honor will be engraved on a commemorative plaque attached to a new bar chair.

### OPCER AWARDED WITH THE YANKEE QUILL

OPC'er Hugh A. Mulligan, special correspondent for the AP,

received one of the 1993 Yankee Quill Awards presented by the board of the Academy of New England Journalists recently. The award "recognizes the effort and dedication of those in New England who have had a broad influence for good in the field of journalism."

### NEWSWEEK PROMOTES TWO OF ITS STAFFERS

Karen Breslau, 31, formerly a general editor for *Newsweek International*, will join *Newsweek's* Washington bureau as a diplomatic correspondent.



Karen Breslau became general editor in January 1993, after serving as a Bonn/Berlin correspondent since 1989. During that time, she

covered the collapse of the Berlin Wall, the Romanian revolution in 1989, German unification and the coup against former Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev.

In addition, Kendall Hamilton has been promoted to "Newsmakers" writer. He joined *Newsweek* in 1989 as a letters correspondent.

### WANT TO GO TO IRELAND?

Would you like to make a weeklong VIP trip to Ireland in June of 1995?

Great. However, the organizers say, at least 40 members and their guests must sign up before June 1, 1994. One of them, Rosalie Brody, says the trip will then go into the planning stages.

The cost of the trip would be approximately \$2,200 per person, including round-trip travel on Aer Lingus, breakfast and other meals, receptions, events and more.

If interested, address your inquiries to : OPC Ireland Trip 1995, OPC, 320 East 42d Street, Mezzanine, N.Y., N.Y. 10017. Please do not telephone.

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### Mexico...

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influence coverage," says Rafael Rodríguez Castañeda, the managing editor of *Proceso* magazine.

But that may soon change. Increased cross-border investment under NAFTA could generate significant new sources of advertising in Mexico. *Reforma's* Sunday edition, for example, is packed with ads from stores in Texas. Financial independence will make editorial independence possible.

"Economic reform in an authoritarian state like Mexico weakens the system and opens up opportunities for other sources of power," says Raymundo Riva Palacio, news editor of the leading financial daily *El Financiero*.

Some of the Mexican media's new-found independence is due to government initiatives. A year ago, the Salinas Administration banned federal cash payments to journalists and started charging them for their expenses on presidential trips. "The aim is to make the relationship between government and media more transparent," says Gabriel Guerra, deputy presidential press secretary. However, the practice of paying off reporters is still widespread at the local and state levels.

**Long Fight.** Next year's presidential elections will offer a serious test of Mexico's media freedom. In September, noted commentator Miguel Angel Granados Chapa lost his radio show after he aired an interview with opposition presidential candidate Cuauhtémoc Cárdenas, who many believe was the real winner of the 1988 elections. Granados says he was dropped because regulators threatened to cancel one of the radio network's seven concessions. "The government is extremely concerned over what radio audiences hear on the air, because that is where the ruling party gets most of its votes," he says.

Unleashing Mexico's long-subdued media will be a long process. Over two decades, Junco's Monterrey daily has

editorialized against everything from the expropriation of farm lands to nationalizing banks. Those views netted him government harassment and some time in exile. But times are changing. "We've come a long way," marvels Junco. "Just a few years ago, I wouldn't have dreamed that we could start a new newspaper in Mexico City without being considered an enemy of the government." The question now is how well the country's authorities will deal with increased scrutiny from the press.

Geri Smith wrote this article for *Business Week*.

### Winston Lord...

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Endowment for Democracy, vice chairman of the International Rescue Committee and Ambassador to China from 1985 to 89.

He also was director of the Policy Planning Staff, from 1973-77 and a Foreign Service Officer from 1961-67.

He graduated magna cum laude from Yale University in 1959 and obtained an M.A. at the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy in 1960. He has received the State Department's Distinguished Honor Award.

### • THE OPC CALENDAR •

Two big events are planned for January:

#### • Winston Lord

When: Tuesday, Jan. 18; Where: The Asia Society, 725 Park Ave.

Time: 5:30 p.m.; Cost: \$5 for members, \$7 for nonmembers

#### • OPC Foundation Scholarship Luncheon with Peter Arnett

When: Thursday, Jan. 20

Where: The Tudor, 304 East 42d Street, NYC, at noon

Cost: To be announced

The Overseas Press Club of America, Inc.  
320 East 42nd Street, Mezzanine  
New York, NY 10017 USA

# OPC Bulletin

## Express to Hanoi a Long Trip Into Past

BY ROY ROWAN

*Returning recently from Vietnam, where he was on assignment for ASIA, INC. magazine (edited by Anthony Paul, an OPC member), Roy Rowan sent us this account of his 38-hour, 976-mile train ride from Ho Chi Minh City to Hanoi. Rowan, who covered the Vietnam war for TIME and LIFE, is a member of the OPC board of governors. He was among the last correspondents to leave Saigon by helicopter on April 30, 1975.*

A fresh coat of red paint with snappy yellow trim gives the "Reunification Express" a deceptively sleek look. Standing by the doors, waiting to lead you to your compartment, are smartly uniformed women car attendants. The word "Express" is embroidered in English over the breast pocket of their starched white shirts, but don't be mis-

led. They speak only Vietnamese, though the train isn't from Vietnam.

The diesel locomotive is an old Czech railway workhorse from Prague, while the rolling stock behind it consists of a mongrel collection of antique Eastern European coaches, sleepers, and a car equipped with huge streaming vats that looks more like a mobile soup kitchen used to feed starving refugees than a diner. You don't eat in this cauldron of a car, anyway. Passengers receive their meals airplane-style in plastic boxes delivered to their seats and compartments. Frankly, it's a good idea to bring your own food.

Pulling out of Ho Chi Minh City at 5 p.m., the train twists through the dilapidated factories and tenements of old Saigon before escaping into the verdant countryside just north of the city. An announcement over the P.A. system in

English and Vietnamese warns passengers to behave and "not to cause chaos on the train." The car attendants pass out plastic toilet kits containing a toothbrush, toothpaste, a wash cloth, comb, and a bottle of green liquid that my wife and I couldn't decide whether was mouthwash or perfume.

Very soon the kitchen car team trundles a cart down the corridor delivering dinner. The individual plastic boxes contain noodles, vegetables and a few chunks of meat. Hot soup ladled from a bucket is poured over the food to warm

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### OPC to Hear Winston Lord

Winston Lord, the Assistant Secretary of State for East Asian and Pacific Affairs, will open 1994 for the Overseas Press Club with a discussion of how current developments in Asia shape up for the coming year. He will speak on Tuesday, Jan. 18, at 5:30 p.m. at the Asia Society, which is jointly sponsoring his appearance with the OPC. The Society is at 725 Park Ave. in New York. The cost is \$5 for OPC or Asia Society members, and \$7 for nonmembers. Wine and cheese will be served after the program, according to Scott Snyder, acting director of the Contemporary Affairs Program of the Asia Society.

Mr. Lord occupies a crucial position involving numerous key issues in the management of United States foreign policy in Asia, including the U.S. embargo on Vietnam, the question of whether the North Koreans have or are building a nuclear bomb and the management of American relations with China.

He was sworn in April 23. Previously, he was chairman of the National

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## Hanoi Express...

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it up. The coffee comes with a thick layer of condensed milk at the bottom. Surprise! Each passenger is also offered a free can of "333" beer, or Coke if you prefer.

There's no sleeping late on the Hanoi Express. At 5:30 a.m., just as the morning sky is purpling the hills outside, the three-speaker sound system in each compartment blares a combination of American country music and Vietnamese songs.

On the road a few motorcycles and buses race the train. But the passing parade on Vietnam's main north-south highway consists mostly of oxcarts, wheelbarrows, bicycles, herds of carabao, flocks of geese and, of course, the ever-present stream of pedestrians bearing heavy bundles suspended from bamboo shoulder poles.

Approaching Da Nang, we pass the historic Marble Mountains consisting of five stone hillocks said to represent the five elements of the universe: earth, water, fire, wood and metal. And below them is China Beach (Bai Non Nuoc), a sugary stretch of sand where GIs rode the waves on surfboards during lulls in the war.

The Da Nang station is a hive of activity. Stalls lining the long platform sell everything a traveler could want from fruit and bread to towels and toilet paper. Better buy a roll of the latter.

Leaving Da Nang, our locomotive and seven cars begin their slow, steep ascent over a spur of the Truong Son Mountains jutting into the South China Sea. This is the most dramatic stretch of the journey to Hanoi. Finally, the track snakes along the top of the high cliff, ducking in and out of long tunnels near the Pass of the Ocean Clouds (Deo Hai Van). Rushing streams and waterfalls cascade down the cliff right under the train. A thousand feet below, the ocean's foamy white surf can be seen crashing against the rocky coast.

The train is running late and the stop in Hue is cut to five minutes, barely long enough for a group of French tourists to clamber aboard. They have been visiting Hue, known for its schol-

ars, poets, philosophers and throne of the Nguyen emperors, who ruled from 1802 until Bao Dai abdicated in 1945. Tragically, the old imperial enclosure called the "Forbidden Purple City" was almost leveled during the Viet Cong's 1960 TET offensive, which also killed some 10,000 Hue residents. But the outer wall of the old Hue Citadel still stands and is clearly visible on the east side of the track right after the train rattles across the Perfume River bridge. Some of the palaces, pagodas and tombs can be spotted, providing a fleeting glance at Vietnam's royal past.

From Hue, the train heads northwest through Dong Ha, then across the Ben Hai River at the 17th parallel—the former dividing line between North and South Vietnam. The DMZ (Demilitarized Zone) that separated the two Vietnams from the time of the 1954 Geneva Agreement is still a dangerous place. Some 5,000 people have been killed there by leftover mines, mortar shells and bombs. The only signs of battle remaining today are scattered bunkers, B-52 bomb craters, and decaying pieces of military equipment

unearthed by scrap-metal scavengers.

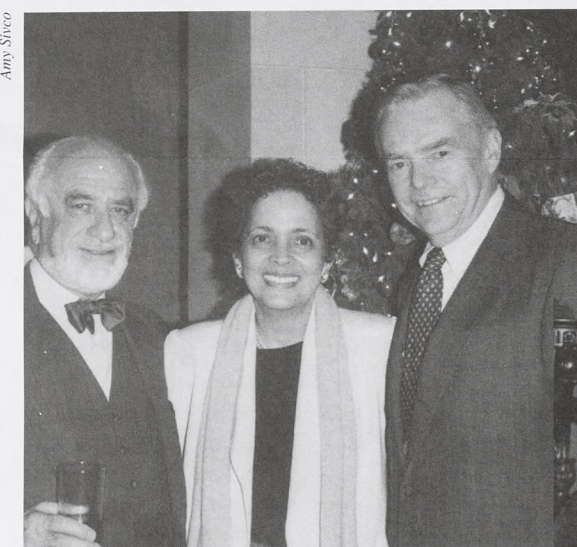
As the express rumbled on through its second night toward its 7 a.m. arrival in Hanoi, I couldn't help thinking how surprising it is that this railway is running at all, considering all the bombings and dynamitings it has been subjected to.

## Scholarships...

Continued from p. 1

the former CBS correspondent who died during the past year, and the GTE Corporation, the telecommunications company. Kendrick's brother, Victor, provided the funds for that scholarship.

"We are highly gratified," said Stevenson, "that we have sponsors for two full scholarships, but contributions of all amounts are welcome. They will help finance our work with college and university students who are interested in careers as international correspondents."



Deck the Halls: 3 OPC Governors, Whitman Bassow, (l-r), Ponchitta Pierce and Ray Price were among the nearly 60 members and guests who attended the Holiday Party at The Tudor.

Entertaining Voice: Wendy Saivetz of New York City sang for the guests. Wendy is about to record her third compact disc.



## Redeploying a Global Journalistic Army

BY LOUIS D. BOCCARDI

The end of the Cold War has been nothing but good for journalism. If analysis is journalism's greatest art, what could be more invigorating than a world where everything has to be analyzed anew?

We had a pretty good idea how the world worked—and how to report it—before the fall of the Berlin Wall. There was even a certain comfort in it. True, the East-West conflict was complicated and occasionally reached terrifying crises. But the underlying issues and actors were basically familiar: distinct nations, mostly run by political (or maybe ex-military) professionals who had risen to the top of their nations' elite. Their goals were the survival and economic prosperity of their own nations, and ideological and military expansion when possible. Short of war, there were only three ways to end any particular standoff in which the blocs were involved: East gives in, West gives in, or East and West reach compromise.

Moreover, not just political conflict between Washington and Moscow, but practically every other world issue was a subset of the East-West standoff. Internal strife in a Third World country, regional conflicts, even scientific and cultural debates, all had their East-West overtones. Whether an international congress was on global warming or economic development, a reporter arrived with a good sense of the answer to the inevitable question: Which sides are the superpowers on?

That was then. Now, with the Cold War end, world events have begun to spin on a variety of new axes. Its other problems aside, the era of East-West competition was, by comparison, a golden age of stability. These days, the drivers of world politics are often not the nations we know well, but highly unstable countries or larger, supranational forces: militant Islam, an unruly world economy, massive movements of populations, Asia's increasingly successful pursuit of business and profit. If politicians truly in control of these forces can be found at all, they may not be from any political elite, but overnight creations riding popular fervor. Leaders of mass movements in Yugoslavia, Somalia and other nations sprouted with little warning, and business is a new launching pad for other national leaders.

Complicating things further is that in place of the old win, lose or draw outcomes of U.S.-Soviet crises, today's newsmaking forces may represent far longer-term trends for reporters to recognize, understand and interpret.

The only way to bring some stories home to Main Street, into a newshole where international news has to fight for every inch, may sometimes be through the sheer force of excellent writing and presentation—words, pictures and graphics. Even the most skilled journalists may have trouble understanding who's acting and who's reacting in the world, and untangling the highly complicated passions behind many current disputes. Even well-known modern movements are poorly understood. For instance, what are the goals of "Muslim fundamentalism" and what's at stake? The movement has been authoritatively analyzed as everything from a coherent international crusade against the Western world to just a set of slogans for small, random protest movements in a dozen Muslim countries. There is no spokesperson for global Muslim fundamentalism, no one dateline that's perfect for writing about it.

With people (for once) in charge, the oft-maligned man-on-the-street sidebar may be more important these days than the main story it accompanies. The "color" or "scene" story about the angry crowds around the parliament building may say more about the broader trend, the analysis we bring to the events. It is less what some participant "said today." All this calls for new ways of reporting.

Because reporting now calls for more specialization, our correspondents are traveling more often outside their home regions, following their own special expertise. Technological advances make it easier for correspondents to travel and stay constantly in touch. Portable satellite gear, some of it the size of a backpack, lets us transmit copy from anywhere. For decades, the physical difficulty of covering some stories, particularly problems with visas and official harassment, has hampered us abroad. In some countries, these problems have abated somewhat.

What it adds up to for the AP is not some grand global shuttle that closes bureaus wholesale and opens a raft of new ones as fault lines shift. We are a global news agency and our reach must remain broad. Yes, there are some reassignments, but the bigger change corresponds to the massive changes in the world we cover. As the world adapts to new global structures that must develop to replace the old patterns of the Cold War, so must news organizations like ours adapt in how the news is reported to reflect those changes. And "new," of course, is what journalism is all about.

Louis D. Boccardi is the president and chief executive officer of the Associated Press, which serves more than 15,000 newspaper and broadcast outlets in 112 countries.

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## IAPA Says: Violence Against the Press Continues

BY BOB BROWN

The Inter American Press Association just held its 49th general assembly in San Carlos de Bariloche, Argentina, in the foothills of the Andes surrounded by snow-capped mountains. The setting and the program attracted 568 members and guests, the second largest attendance in its history.

Leaders of Argentina, Uruguay and Paraguay spoke from the same podium declaring their dedication to freedom of the press. Their words were welcomed, but IAPA—in its traditional country-by-country assessment of the press—concluded that although democratic governments prevail in the nations of North and South America, violence and legal action against the press continue. "Democracy alone is no guarantee of free expression for either the press or individuals," IAPA concluded. Haiti and Cuba have no freedom of the press.

Argentina is booming. The peso is on a par with the dollar, which is accepted everywhere. The meeting was held in the euphoria of Argentina's soccer victory over Australia as well as passage of NAFTA by the U.S. Congress. The Argentina government and press, as well as most of the press of Latin America, are enthusiastic and optimistic that the benefits of NAFTA will filter down to them. Argentina, Uruguay, Paraguay and Brazil have their own free trade zone developing (Mercosur), and they see an eventual merger of these and other groups, such as in Central America.

It was springtime, and the flowers were blooming everywhere in Bariloche, giving the impression of a Swiss landscape. After six days there, I was fortunate to be able to travel by boat and bus through the lake country into Chile. Huge lakes, 1,500 feet deep, were surrounded by snow-capped mountains rising an additional 8,000 feet. The area receives more than 200 inches of rain a year, and it is surprising to find a tropical rain forest

in the Andes with Spanish moss and bamboo.

Transportation included powerful catamaran diesels on three different lakes connected by bus travel over winding single lane roads. Traffic is controlled at checkpoints. There is one overnight hotel at the border, along with the immigration and customs offices of both countries. The hotel was not luxurious but comfortable. Food and drink were adequate—both the Argentine and Chilean wines are good. But those of us assigned to the third floor in this 90-room hotel found that

in the morning, there was very little water pressure and no hot water.

Chile is another story. We spent two days exploring the coast around Puerto Montt and then flew to Santiago, two hours north, and home from there.

If anyone has the time I heartily recommend the trip as one of the most spectacular I have made.

Brown is president and editor of *Editor and Publisher*, former president of the *InterAmerican Press Association*, and a past president of *Sigma Delta Chi/SPJ*.

## Mexico: Free Trade and Freedom of the Press?

Is Mexico relaxing its control of the media?

BY GERI SMITH

Mexico City's newest daily newspaper is aptly named: *Reforma*. While many other papers are relegating stories on the fraud-tainted Nov. 28 elections in Yucatán state to inside pages, *Reforma* keeps blasting the government with front-page articles calling the scandal a "political soap opera." Much of Mexico's media is under the government's thumb, but the \$50 million start-up owned by Alejandro Junco de la Vega, an independent-minded Monterey publisher, is not afraid to speak out.

That's good news. *Reforma* is a front-runner in forging a new kind of journalism in Mexico. As free trade remakes the country's economy, Mexicans are demanding a more open flow of information. It will be difficult to achieve. Mexico's government says it is implementing political reforms to make the country more democratic, but journalists from the tightly controlled radio and TV stations are still being

hassled for interviewing opposition leaders. The government goes easier on print journalists, partly because only about 15% of Mexicans—the political and economic elite—read newspapers and magazines.

**Greased Palms.** For decades, the Mexican media have had an unhealthy, sometimes incestuous relationship with the government. Broadcasters have been loath to criticize official policies because radio and TV concessions are easily yanked away. Underpaid reporters used to accept cash-stuffed envelopes from government agencies or political parties to put a certain spin on news. Even today, the government inserts paid articles in many newspapers, forking over as much as \$30,000 for a bylined front-page story. In many cases, more than half of the ad revenue comes from the state. "They depend so much on the government that a small tightening of the screws is enough to

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